

## **ABSTRACT**

Human obesity is a health problem affecting a significant proportion of the American population. Numerous methods of treating obesity have been developed, but all have serious drawbacks. The present invention discloses a novel class of polymers with either a sulfur atom or an electron withdrawing group between a polymer backbone and a pendant aryl boronic acid group. Polymers having such an electron withdrawing group have been found to be particularly effective in inhibiting lipase in vitro and in vivo. Methods of treating obesity and reducing absorption of fat are also disclosed.